

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action dated October 16, 2006. Claims 1 and 11 are amended. Claims 5 and 15 are cancelled. No claims are added. As a result, claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-22 are now pending in this patent application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5 and 15 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the language of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has incorporated the language of claims 5 and 15 into their respective base independent claims 1 and 11, and cancelling claims 5 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer. In sum, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the remaining claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-22 are now in allowable form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all claims.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 8-10 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hill et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,403,356). Because, as discussed above, Applicant has amended all pending claims into a form indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

(1) Claims 1-3, 6, 7 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mower (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,351) in view of Hill et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,403,356). (2) Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mower (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,351) in view of Hill et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,403,356), and further in view of Schloss et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,694). (3) Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hill et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,403,356) in view of Schloss et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,694). (4) Claims 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hill et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,403,356) in view of Warman et al. (U.S. 2004/0088010).

Because, as discussed above, Applicant has amended all pending claims into a form indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of these bases of rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6951 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

February 16, 2007

By



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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22312-1450 on this 16th day of February 2007.

Name



Signature

